IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 16, 1858.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. IVERSON made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 149.]

The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petition of George H. Howell, report:

The petitioner was commissioned as assistant surgeon in the navy on the 9th November, 1847, and was entitled to an examination for promotion to passed assistant surgeon on the 9th November, 1852, but he was absent from the United States at the time, on board the United States brig Bainbridge, on the coast of Africa, and did not return until August, 1853. He passed a satisfactory examination in 1854.

Under a decision of the Attorney General, dated July 1, 1853, it is held that he was not entitled to the advanced pay of passed assistant surgeon until after his actual examination. The effect of this decision is, as justly remarked by the Attorney General, to deprive the meritorious officer, who is actually engaged in foreign service, of the emoluments which he would have received if he had been enjoying the comforts of home.

This claim is for the difference of pay from January 28, 1853, when it would have commenced, if he had been at home, to April 7, 1854, when it actually commenced, amounting to \$298 61.

The committee are of opinion that the claim ought to be allowed, and report a bill accordingly.

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The Committee of Classen, in whom our referred the petition of exempt.

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